



The Sibling Journey –Day Two presented by Harriet Redman, M.S. Ed – founder of WisconSibs and designer of *Journey Forward* program for adults of people with disabilities

[Day 1 - Friday, March 31, 2017 presented by Don Meyer]

Day 2 - Saturday, April 1, 2017 10 am – 2 pm

This workshop is designed to help adult siblings of people with disabilities and/or parents of children with disabilities assess their family's current needs for future planning, find resources, and create practical strategies for addressing the future legal, financial, health care, housing and other elements of future planning. It is recommended that participants attend Day 1, but not required in order to benefit from Day 2.

Target audience: 1.) Adult Siblings of people with disabilities, 2.) parents of young or adult children with disabilities, 3.) professionals interested in supporting individuals with disabilities and their families.

You should attend if:

- You've ever worried what would happen if your parents were unable to care for your sibling.
- You want to do future planning with your sibling or child, but just haven't done it yet.
- You feel uneasy starting a conversation with your parents, your sibling, or your child about planning for the future.
- You aren't sure where to start with future planning.
- You started a plan but feel you need to restart or get a refresher on the basic legal, financial, government benefits, or other future planning elements.

Outcomes – Participants will learn:

- How to overcome procrastination when it comes to making future plans with their adult sibling or their child who has disabilities.
- How to save money by preparing for future appointments with attorneys, financial planners, and other future planning professionals.
- How to successfully get beyond the worry and the obstacles in doing future planning.
- How to find resources to continue their journey forward planning for the future.

Agenda:

10:00 Getting Beyond the Worry

75% of adults with developmental disabilities in the U.S. live at home with at least one parent age 60 or older. What happens next? Assessing your situation, your role, and identifying goals.

11:00 Getting Beyond all the Alphabet Soup

Knowing the language of future planning, where to find resources, and how to ask questions can save time and money through your future planning journey. Information and tips from experienced siblings, parents and professionals.

Lunch



1:00 Top Ten Tips for WisconSibs (adult siblings) and the parents who love them

Future planning often is directed only at parents. But the reality is that most parents say they want their child with disabilities to live with another family member...and that's often adult siblings. This portion of the workshop welcomes parents to actively listen in on what adult siblings need to know and how parents can help the whole family successfully put together plans for the future.

Harriet Redman, M.S. Ed. is Executive Director and founder of WisconSibs, a non-profit organization dedicated to children and adults who have siblings with disabilities. Formerly, a teacher, family program developer, and marketing director for a Fortune 500 company. Harriet serves as chairman of the Outagamie County Long-term Care Advisory board, the Housing Partnership Board and Special Needs Housing committee and other community initiatives. She and her husband have a 24-year old son with disabilities whose 27-year old sister is her mother's inspiration and most honest critic.

Redman has received the *Exceptional Parent* magazine's Maxwell J. Schleifer Distinguished Service Award, the *Kasidhe Olson Distinguished Parent Award*, and the *Richard Blakely Award* from the WI Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities.